

Attn. Matthew Reece
Tongass National Forest Greens Creek Mine

Subject: NEP SEIS 8510 Mendenhall Loop Road Juneau, AK 99801 Re: Greens Creek Mine North Extension Project

Mr. Reece:

I am writing in support of Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company's (HGCMC) request to expand their Tailings Disposal Facility (TDF) and related infrastructure as described in their North Extension Project (NEP). I favor Alternative D.

Expansion of the existing TDF that builds on the existing successful facility, minimizes disturbance outside the existing lease boundary, and avoids direct disturbance to sensitive habitats and environmental resources.

My experience working with HGCMC has demonstrate their willingness to meet stringent regulatory and permit requirement while minimizing impacts to surrounding lands. Their daily operations are carried out with the objective of protecting the environment. The footprint on Admiralty Island is well managed and is minimal.

HGCMC has demonstrated its commitment to environmental excellence for the past 35 years. It also is a significant contributor to Juneau's economy and a generous community supporter.

I support HGCMC's tailings expansion, Alternative D.

Sincerely,

Gary Hayden

PO Box 210076

Auke Bay, AK 99821